

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DJIBOU 00648 090802Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 EUR-12 MCT-01 EB-08 CAB-02
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P R 081400Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0910
INFO USMISSION USUN NY
AMCONSUL MONTREAL

C O N F I D E N T I A L DJIBOUTI 0648

MONTREAL FOR USREP TO ICAO

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, EAIR, DJNR
SUBJECT: ANTI-HIJACKING CONTACT GROUP: DJIBOUTI

REF: STATE 90969

1. FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS PROVIDED REFTEL, CHARGE CONSULTED WITH FRENCH AMBASSADOR BASTOUIL (ALSO DEAN OF LOCAL DIPLOMATIC CORPS) ON PROPER APPROACH TO TAKE WITH DJIBOUTIANS TO ENCOURAGE THIS COUNTRY'S ACCESSION TO THE VARIOUS CONVENTIONS. WE DETERMINED THAT THEIR LACK OF ADTERANCE HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH OPPOSITION TO TTE SPIRIT OR SUBSTANCE OF THE VARIOUS CONVENTIONS BUT WAS A FUNCTION OF LACK OF OPPORTUNITY TO DO SO. THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR AND I DECIDED ON A JOINT APPROACH TO THE PRIME MINISTER AS A MEANS OF DEMONSTRATING THE IMPORTANCE OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS ATTACH TO THE ANTI-HIJACKING INSTRUMENTS.

2. ACCORDINGLY, ON MAY 6, AMBASSADOR BASTOUIL AND I MET WITH PRIME MINISTER ABDALLAH KAMIL IN HIS OFFICE IN THE CITE MINISTERIELLE. AN AIDE MEMOIRE CONTAINING THE ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF THE TALKING POINTS PROVIDED BY BOTH OUR TWO CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 DJIBOU 00648 090802Z

GOVERNMENTS WAS PRESENTED, AS WELL AS A COPY OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION.

3. PRIME MINISTER KAMIL INFORMED US THAT THE DJIBOUTI COUNCIL OF MINISTERS APPROVED THE COUNTRY'S MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION IN THE ICAO ON MAY 2, AND THAT HE SAW NO REASON WHY THE COUNTRY SHOULD NOT MOVE TO ACCESSION TO THE THREE CONVENTIONS. HE

REQUESTED THAT COPIES, IN FRENCH, OF THE TOKYO, HAGUE AND MONTREAL CONVENTIONS BE PROVIDED HIM SO THAT THE THREE AGREEMENTS COULD BE SUBMITTED TO THE CABINET. KAMIL IS OFF TO FRANCE FOR A MEETING OF FRANCOPHONE FOREIGN MINISTERS AND WILL BE OCCUPIED WITH THE UPCOMING FRANCOLTONE CHIEFS OF STATE MEETING. HOWEVER, HE BELIEVES THAT THE CONVENTIONS CAN BE EXAMINED BY THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS DURING THE MONTH OF JUNE.

4. DEPARTMENT IS REQUESTED TO PROVIDE COPIES OF THE VARIOUS CONVENTIONS IN FRENCH. MONTREAL SHOULD INFORM THE ICAO THAT DJIBOUTI WILL SOON BE PROVIDING ITS APPLICATION TO THAT ORGANIZATION AND TO DO WHAT IS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE THE PROCDEURES FOR FORMAL ENTRY.

CLARKE

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NNN

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